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A DECLARATION AGAINST THE CROSSE PETITION:

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The danger of Diviſion prevented. And

The Unitie of this Iland in Religion urged.

BY

THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE GENERALL ASSEMBLY.

EDINBURGH,
Printed by *Evan Tyler*, Printer to the Kings moſt excellent Majeſtie. 1643.

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THe word of GOD, the example of the People of GOD, and of the Kirk of Christ, since the beginning, and our own late, but very notable and never to be forgotten experience, may abundantly teach us, that the motions, resolutions and endeavours of the Godly, for the advancement of the Kingdome of the Son of GOD, by establishing or propagating the Reformation of Religion, must meet with a world of opposition and hinderances, which might make their hearts to faint, and their hands to fail, if upon the same grounds and documents they were not taught to acquit themselves, in doing the dutie required of them by the necessitie of their callings, and for the successe to depend upon the unsearchable wiledome, and invincible power of GOD, which are made perfect in the simplicitie and weaknesse of his servants: *The Zeal of the Lord of hosts will performe it.*

There hath ever been in the Kirk of Christ, and shall be to the end, a generation which maketh more accompt of the World, then of the Faith of Christ, doth conceive that differences about Religion are but the contentions of Kirk-men, that therefore there is no necessitie of the Reformation of Religion, and that to know nothing of this kinde, is the surest Faith, and seeketh in their service to Kings and Princes civilly to supererogate at their hands, beyond the deservings of others, and above the expressed desires and commands of Princes themselves, that the rewards of their singular zeal may be the greater, and therefore have proven, and daily doe prove the most pernicious and dangerous enemies of the true Religion: against this

generation, which saith, *Let us deal wisely with them*, we have this comfort and advantage, that we know amongst all the Enemies of the Truth they least of all think that they doe GOD service.

We who are intrusted for the time, to be the Commissioners of the late Generall assembly, sitting at Edinburgh for the Affaires of the Kirk committed to our care and diligence, specially for preserving of our own Reformation, and Peace against all sorts of Enemies, and according to the interest of this Kirk for Unitie in Religion and Uniformitie of Government with the Kirk of England, which was no new motion of ours, but a proposition made by the Commissioners of the Treaty, which then received from the Kings Majestie and Parliament of England, such an Answer as hath been the ground of many Consultations, Declarations and Publick Letters since, and of a renewed supplication at this time to the Kings Majestie, and of a Declaration to the Parliament of England for the same effect. While we are thus exercised, we are desired by some Noblemen, Barons and Burgesses, occasionally met at Edinburgh, to send some of our numbe r to joyne with them in a Petition, representing to the right Honourable the Lords and other Commissioners of Parliament for the conservation of peace, their humble thoughts and fears that the printing of His Majesties Letter of the date, *December* 5. by Warrand and Command of the right Honourable the Lords of His Majesties Privie Councell, and the not printing of the Declaration of both Houses of Parliament, unto which the printed Letter was an Answer, might be taken by the Kingdome of England, as an approbation of the whole matter, and all the particulars which it did expresse, and thereby to animate and provoke this Nation against them as Rebells and Traitours;

We

We finding that the Petition did homologate both in the end and meanes with our Commission, and the matter of our present deliberations, did willingly satisfie the desire of the Petitioners, and therefore from our tender and dutifull respect to His Majesties Honour, for preventing and removiug of all occasion of jealousies and suspitions betwixt the two Kingdomes, for preservation both of our own peace at home, and our common peace with England, and for promoving the so much desired Unitie of Religion, a meane of all other most conducing to the conservation of both, did with them (conforme to the order observed in such cases since the beginning of our late Reformation) humbly supplicate, that the meaning of the publication of His Majesties Letter might be cleared, and that the Declaration of both Houses of Parliament to their Bretheren of Scotland might be printed and published, &c.

But behold! after a few dayes a contrary Petition is presented to the Lords of His Majesties Privie Councell, by some private Noblemen, Barons and Gentlemen, which coming to our hands, we found after due examination to be nothing else but a secret plot and subtle under-mining of all the present designes of this Kirk and Kingdome, for Unitie of Religion, and of all the work of God in this Land: And therefore we made upon it the observations and animadversions following.

I. That private Persons knowing that the Commissioners of the Generall Assembly were sitting at this time about such matters as they meddle with in their Petition, and that we had joyned in presenting a Petition to the Commissioners for conserving of Peace, much about the same particulars, whereof they could not be ignorant by reason of the Act of the late Assembly, they did not so much as acquaint us with their intentions, that we might either

either have petitioned with them, or have advised them to desist: which although it may seem to be but an errour in the manner of their doing, yet doth it imply contempt, usurpation and division; and being winked at, may be the cause of much disturbance and confusion in these times, especially they professing that they desire to cleare themselves and their intentions, not only to the Lords of Councell, but to the Kings Majestie, to the Kingdome of England, and to all the world, which is nothing else but under the colour of a Petition to make a publick Declaration, contrary to the proceedings, not only of the Generall Assembly and their Commissioners, but also to the desires and diligence of the Commissioners of the Treaty of the honourable Lords of Councell, and of the Conservators of Peace, who have all concurred, and do still concurre in their joynt desires of Unitie of Religion in His Majesties Dominions, resolving to presse this Unitie to the uttermost of their endeavours as a necessary preservative of our own Reformation and Peace, which without it cannot long subsist; and much crossing that clause of our Covenant wherein we sweare, that we shall not cast in any lett or impediment that may stay or hinder any such resolution, as by common consent shall be found to conduce for so good ends.

II. Although the Petitioners professe with us that they desire the Union of this Iland in Religion and Kirk-Government, yet their Petition doth too plainly and palpably tend to the contrary, as is apparent by this threefold consideration: 1. For remedie of the divisions and distractions in England, the Petition desireth only *the suppression of insolent Papists, malignant schismaticks, and disloyall Brownists and Separatists, the speciall, if not sole promovers and fomenters of these unhappy mis-understandings*: and thus doth passe by the Prelates, and balketh the Bishops,

Bishops, who have been the most restlesse sticklars in this businesse, and the prime authors of all these tragedies since the beginning, and thereby would take us off our right and straight course of pressing uniformitie in Kirk government in the Treaty, in our Declarations, and in the Generall assembly: The Apologists for the Petition would have reduced the Prelates either to Papists, or to Sectaries; but the Authors of the Petition intended better service, by sending the Petition to England, without trenching upon the Lordly Prelacie, or touching the Prelates at all; which from strangers is an high provocation against the Kingdome and Parliament of England, and no small prejudice against the proceedings of this Kirk and Kingdome for Reformation. 2. This Petition doth indirectly cast foule aspersions upon these who are most zealous for the Reformation in England, and doth very much symbolize with the language of the Popish and Prelaticall party in England; calling the Parliament, and all that seek after Reformation, *Brownists, Separatists, Authors of tumultuary conventions*, &c. 3 It hinteth at our zeal and forwardnesse in the matter of the Reformation of the Kirk of England: which may appear thus; The Petitioners declare, *That since the duty of charity doth oblige all Christians to pray and professe their desires, that all others were of the same Religion with themselves*, &c. Therefore they represent their wishes for unitie of Religion and Kirk government, as an expression and testimony of their affection to the good of their brethren in England: Declaring further, That *they desire this work to be prosecuted without presuming or usurping to prescribe lawes and rules of Reformation to their Neighbours.* And again they repeat, that *by their wishes and desires they intend no wayes to passe their bounds, in prescribing or setting downe rules and limits to His Majestie and Houses of Parliament*

their

their wiſedome and authoritie, in the way of proſecution hereof. And why do they ſo plentifully purge, and carefully clear themſelves concerning this particular, if their intention were not to leave ſome aſperſion upon this Kirk and State, as if we were paſſing our bounds, by preſuming to preſcribe rules and limits to His Majeſtie and Houſes of Parliament? For further evidence whereof, it is to be remembred, that in the firſt part of their Petition they plainly profeſſe, that they are clearing themſelves and their intentions, leſt they ſhould be thought to be involved with us in the ſame deſires, judgements, and opinions: So that all which they ſay by way of clearing of themſelves and their intentions, ariſeth from this ground, that they will not be thought involved with us in our deſires, judgements, and opinions, and ſo condemne us in theſe particulars, in which chiefly they juſtifie themſelves: neither can we knit together their words, or interpret their apologie to another meaning. Now what is this elſe but to overturne the very foundation of all our endeavours for this work of Reformation, which was the Article of the Treaty for union in Religion, and uniformity in Kirk government? Not as a matter nakedly deſired and wiſhed for; but as a principall demand, and neceſſary mean, without which neither truth nor peace could be ſecured unto us. The importance and neceſſity whereof hath been ſince that time ſo deeply laid to heart by this Kirk and Kingdome, that as the Generall Aſſembly, and we for our part repreſenting the ſame, ſo the Lords of Councell, and the Commiſſioners of Parliament for conſervation of the peace, concurring with us, have been, and are moſt ſerious and ſolicitous in the importunate and earneſt preſſing of this union in Religion and Kirk government, reſolving to uſe our uttermoſt endeavours in the proſecuting and effectuating of ſuch a bleſſed and neceſſary

neceſſary work, as being dearer to us then all our Lives and Fortunes: neither did the Generall Aſſembly ſpare to repreſent their humble advice concerning the way of proſecuting that work to the houſes of Parliament, and to others ſeeking after Reformation in England.

III. Their Petition doth tend to a dangerous diviſion in this Kirk and Kingdome; for as it doth reflect upon us for our joyning in the Petition concerning His Majeſties printed Letter preſented to the Commiſſioners of Parliament, for conſervation of the Peace, upon a pretext (as it ſaith) of the not ſitting of the Privie Councell at that time; ſo it inſinuateth, that we did preſume to queſtion or ſeek of the Lords of Councell an account of their Actions; both which are foule and groundleſſe aſperſions: yea, it declareth, that the Petitioners doe ſo far diſlike our Petition, that they conceive they were wanting in their dutie and allegeance to the Kings Majeſty, if by their ſilence they ſhould ſuffer themſelves to be involved with us in the like deſires, judgements and opinions: thus plainly profeſſing a diviſion and ſeparation, aſwell from us, as from other Noblemen, Gentlemen, Burgeſſes and Miniſters, here occaſionally met, with whom we joyned in the foreſaid Petition. And not content to with-draw themſelves from being involved with us, the Petition doth alſo inſinuate, that in their opinion we are involved in the breach of dutie and allegeance to the Kings Majeſtie; and not we only, but the Commiſſioners for conſerving the Peace, who did hearken and aſſent to our Petition, and did ſeriouſly recommend to the Lords of His Majeſties Privie Councell, that part of the Petition which did concerne their Lordſhips clearing of their meaning in the publication of His Majeſties Letter, by their cauſing print the Declaration of the Parliament of England. The Lords of Councell are likewiſe involved in the ſame breach of al-

legeance, by reaſon of their grant of our deſire in cauſing print the Declaration of both Houſes of Parliament, upon the warrant of another Letter from His Majeſty, and therewith declaring, that their Lordſhips publication of any Paper, doth not import their approbation of the contents thereof.

IV. The Petition above-mentioned doth import no ſmall prejudice to the happy Union and late Treaty of Peace betwixt the Kingdomes, inſinuating to the Lords of his Majeſties Privie Councell, that their Lordſhips in anſwering our Petition concerning the clearing of their meaning in the publication of His Majeſties Letter, might do no act which may give His Majeſty occaſion to repent him of that truſt for aid and aſſiſtance, which He was pleaſed to declare in his Letter December 5. that he repoſeth in us His Subjects of this His ancient and native Kingdome; whereby the Petitioners do intimate their deſires, that the Lords of Councell might not declare that for which we did ſupplicate, but to declare by their not printing the Declaration of the Parliament, that their Lordſhips publication of His Majeſties Letter did import their approbation of the contents thereof, and ſo acknowledge their willingneſſe to take Arms againſt the Parliament of England, upon the grounds contained in that Letter, when His Majeſty ſhall require them ſo to doe. And for their own part they declare, that they think themſelves obliged *in every cauſe which may concerne His Majeſties honour to concurre with their friends and followers in quiet manner, or in Arms, as they ſhall be required of his Majeſtie, his Counceell, or any having his authoritie.* Which if underſtood and applyed aright, no loyall Subject can deny, but it is meant and expreſſed in their Petition, as in oppoſition to our Petition; So in contemplation of the Differences betwixt His Majeſty, and the Parliament of England, unto which their

their words relate. For they profeſſe to repreſent ſuch particulars as they are confident will much conduce to the removing of all the miſtakes betwixt His Majeſty, and the Parliament: of which particulars, that is the firſt, That according to His Majeſties truſt expreſſed in His Letter December 5. the Subjects of this Kingdome declare themſelves willing and ready to take Armes in every cauſe which may concerne His Majeſties honour, being required by His Majeſty, or any having His Authoritie. And is not this to make void the Treaty, ratified by the publick Faith of this Kingdome, and Act of Parliament, diſcharging all taking up of Armes againſt the Kingdome or Subjects of England, upon any pretence whatſoever, without conſent of Parliament, declaring the breach of Peace; and that after three moneths warning? Which treaty the Eſtates of Parliament did ſwear to obſerve inviolably, in the ſame very oath in which they did ſwear allegeance to the Kings Majeſtie; thereby declaring, that the obſervation of the concluſions of the treaty may well conſiſt with our duty and allegeance to our Soveraigne, whereas the Petition doth indirectly put ſome aſperſion of Læſmajeſtie upon the Parliament for confirming and ſwearing to obſerve the Articles of the Treatie, which in the opinion of the Petitioners are inconſiſtent with our oath of allegeance. If they ſay that their Petition did only inſinuate that we may not take armes to aſſiſt the Parliament againſt the King, they put upon it a ſenſe which it cannot beare, both becauſe they knew that the ſupplication of the Noblemen, Barons, and others aſſiſted by us, did not directly nor indirectly containe any ſuch thing, And becauſe His Majeſties truſt expreſſed in that Letter (which they deſire His Majeſtie may not have occaſion from us to repent) is not only a negative truſt, that we will not take armes againſt him, but a poſi-

tive truſt and confidence, that we will be ready to aſſiſt him. And finally, becauſe the clauſe of the Supplication of the Generall Aſſembly which they mention as containing our obligation to our Soveraigne, and that in reference to the preſent diſtructions in England, is poſitive, and not negative.

V. Laſtly, the Petitioners for their own private ends doe very much wreſt and miſ-apply our Nationall Covenant, about which the whole Nation and all the Members of the Kirk of Scotland have as great reaſon, as by the mind of man can be conceived, to be moſt tender and cautelous; and which every one amongſt us, according to his place and calling, is obliged to vindicate from every violation; and namely, from ſiniſter gloſſes, and falſe interpretations, which may be the fountaine and cauſe (the Covenant being one principall rule of our actions and undertakings) of many ſcruples, tranſgreſſions, and diſturbances. We acknowledge before God, and profeſſe before the World, that by our Covenant we are bound to the utmoſt of our power, with our meanes and lives, to ſtand to the defence of our dread Soveraigne the Kings Majeſtie, his Perſon and Authoritie, in the defence and preſervation of the true Religion, Lawes and Liberties of this Kirk and Kingdome; likewiſe in every cauſe which may concerne his Majeſties honour, according to the Lawes of this Kingdome, and the duty of good ſubjects, to concurre with our friends and followers in quiet manner, and in armes, as we ſhall be required of His Majeſtie, his Councell, or any having his authoritie. We know, that he who wilfully tranſgreſſeth one Article of the Covenant, it being copulative, is by interpretation guiltie of all. And therefore under the greateſt paines expreſſed in the Covenant, we reſolve for our ſelves, all the dayes of our lives, and doe exhort all others to that duty which they have

have ſworne and ſubſcribed to perform to the Kings Majeſtie: But we deſire to know of the Petitioners, who are ſo ready at this time to make their own concluſions out of the Covenant, which was never intended by it, nor thought upon at the firſt or laſt time at the ſwearing and ſubſcribing thereof, how it cometh to paſſe that they never took the Covenant in their mouth, but in this one Article? Are they not bound by their Covenant, and the ſame clauſe of the ſupplication, cited by them, to their mutuall concurrence and aſſiſtance for the cauſe of Religion? and to ſtand, with their means & lives, to the defence thereof, in the doctrine and diſcipline of the Kirk of Scotland? and to live godly, ſoberly, & righteouſly in this preſent world? True Conſcience of duty and ſincerity in keeping the Covenant, will make the obedience univerſall. Secondly, ſeeing the Petitioners would only have unitie in Religion, and uniformitie in Kirk-Government advanced by Chriſtian wiſhes and fair meanes, and yet inſinuateth their offer by armes to decide the municipall debates of England, anent Civill matters, while the Civill and Eccleſiaſtick Judicatories, and the reſt of this Kirk and Kingdome are deſiring an Aſſembly, and a Parliament, to conſider their intereſt and duty, and to contribute their beſt endeavours (in what is above the power of their Commiſſioners) to further this unitie of Religion, and remove theſe diſtractions in England, we aſk, whether they preſume that they alone keep the Covenant, and would render unto Chriſt which is Chriſts, and unto Ceſar which is Ceſars, and that all others are Covenant-breakers? Thirdly, do they not know that the Covenant was ſubſcribed in the years, 1581. and 1591. before King *James* was King of England? and that in the particular Heads and Articles, it is qualified by expreſſe limitations and reſtrictions to this *Kirk and Kingdome, to the Religion,*

Lawes and Liberties of Scotland? therefore can no more be extended to municipall debates, and to the Lawes and Liberties of England, unto which we are ſtrangers, then the Kingdome of England can judge of our Lawes, and determine our differences, the two Kingdomes being ſtill independent, & not ſubordinate one to another but parallell, which is more at large expreſſed in the beginning of the treaty of Peace: Nor is the ſending of our Forces into Ireland a neceſſary duty of our Covenant, but a voluntary teſtimony of our high reſpects to our King, and of our brotherly kindneſſe to the Kingdome of England, as was expreſſed by the eſtates in the laſt Parliament. Fourthly, do not the Petitioners obſerve the limitations expreſly contained in the words cited by themſelves, *according to the Lawes of this Kingdome and duty of good Subjects?* which ſome of them may remember was interpreted in the Aſſembly, as if it had been ſaid within this Kingdome; nor was there ever any law of this Kingdome of further extent: A law and Treaty there is, we know, forbidding it. Fifthly, may they not learne from the printed Letter, that the Kings Majeſtie expreſſeth not his confidence of aſſiſtance from Scotland, upon any ground or article of the Covenant, which His Majeſtie knoweth to be ſo obligatory amongſt us, but from the obedience, duty and affection of His Subjects of Scotland, without any mention of our Covenant? But ſuch is the ſupererogation of ſome of the Petitioners above what His Majeſtie requires, that they will put a tye of the Covenant upon us, where GOD and the King hath left us free. Thus have we related the interpretation of the Covenant made by the Aſſembly, and vindicate that clauſe of the Covenant, which is ſo far perverted by this Petition.

The Petitioners hearing that their Petition had given offence to the Commiſſioners of the Aſſembly, and that we

we were about the examination and cenſuring thereof, did direct foure of their number with another Petition to give ſatisfaction to the exceptions that might be taken againſt them, as is contained in their Remonſtrance which they exhibite for that end: But when in a calme and quiet conference, all the particular reaſons above-written, were repreſented unto them, and all means uſed to move them to part from their Petition, they could not be induced, neither in the name of others that had ſent them, nor for themſelves, to acknowledge the ſmalleſt errour either in the matter of their Petition, or in the manner of their petitioning; only they made offer to joyn with us the Commiſſioners of the Aſſembly in a new Petition for Unitie of Religion, and gave ſuch gloſſes and interpretations upon the clauſes of their Petition, which were moſt excepted againſt, as could neither conſiſt with the words nor ſcope of the contrivers and authors. And therefore being deſired and earneſtly dealt with, they not only refuſed to declare under their hands that no other thing was meant in the Petition, then they had by word expreſſed, but alſo did ſhun to allow or permit us, the Commiſſioners of the Aſſembly, to declare ſo much in their names, as was contained in their own verball expreſſions, intending that the Petition ſhould go through this and the neighbouring Kingdomes for the ends for which it was deviſed, and eſpecially into England, for fruſtrating all that hath been done, or is now in doing by this Kirk and Kingdome, out of their pious intention, and by their publick endeavours for unitie of Religion, and the peace of the two Kingdomes: And in the mean time that nothing ſhould be extant from them or their confeſſions and interpretations in the contrary.

In this caſe we judge it neceſſary, and finde it incumbent to us to emit this Declaration, for vindicating our preſent

present and by-past proceedings: for our silence and connivence were a breach of our dutie to GOD, a neglect of the charge and trust committed unto us by the Generall Assembly, an occasion as well of divisions at home, as of jealousies and mis-understandings betwixt the Kingdoms, a confirmation of the Petitioners in their errour, & an indirect approbation of their petition; as likewise a cause of stumbling and doubting to others who shall read or hear of such a Petition, especially to those, who through want of discerning, are not able to prove things that are different, might be easily deceived by their pretexts and sophistications. We are not ignorant that this Petition doth very much reflect upon the Parliament, Privy Councell, and the Conservators of Peace; but this we leave to the wise consideration of these civill Judicatories, as they shall finde themselves concerned: we have contained our selves within our proper Spheare, not daring to neglect our own duty, while wee forbeare to meddle with that which pertaines to others.

The Petitioners are not all of one kinde and dispositi-on of heart; but are unequally yoked against the Work of God. Some of them are known, and some of them have been conceived to be Malignants and Incendiaries from the beginning: but God forbid that they should now by opposing unitie in Religion and Peace, prove enemies to all Religion and Righteousnesse; for then will it be both thought and spoken, that all this time past they have been lying in wait for the season, when their malignancie might appear; and it will be observed, that they who were of late at distance amongst themselves, are now at agreement; and that like *Samsons* foxes, they turn taile to taile with fire-brands in the midst, to burn up the husbandrie of GOD, when now the fields are white for the harvest. It cannot be the cause of God which is not either secretly or openly

opposed

oppoſed by men of perverſe mindes; nor can blinded mindes and hardened hearts, till God touch them by his power, chooſe but ſecretly or openly oppoſe the truth and cauſe of God. And therefore it is very neceſſary that ſuch men take heed unto themſelves, leſt by their fulneſſe of all ſubtletie and miſchief, and their not ceaſing to pervert the right wayes of the Lord, they bee found to bee fighting againſt God, which will prove bitterneſſe in the end: Others there be who have joyned in this Petition (to judge charitably) not from oppoſition to the unitie of Religion, they having done and ſuffered ſo much, and hazarded all for the Reformation of Religion at home, but partly out of unwillingneſſe to refuſe or diſpleaſe their friends to whom they are obliged by naturall or other particular bands, and partly by reaſon of the ſpecious pretences in the Petition, not conſidering the bad intentions of the contrivers, or the dangerous importance and conſequence of the Petition it ſelf: Let ſuch men, to whom the Commiſſioners of the Aſſembly wiſh all true happineſſe, ſeriouſly think as well upon the condition of the work, and the quality of the company with whom they joyne, as upon their own intentions, leſt they wrong both themſelves, and the cauſe of God, contrary to their deſires, and more then they are aware of; and let them remember how dangerous it is to walke in the counſell of the ungodly, for their ſoules to come into their ſecret, and their glory to be joyned with their Aſſembly. If counſell be like the principall agent, conſent is like the inſtrument; and to be inſtruments of, or acceſſorie unto the hinderance of the intended, and ſo much deſired unitie of Religion, which maketh ſo fair a way for the Kingdome of Chriſt through the Earth, how great a ſin is it? and how great a ſorrow ſhall it be?

All this we have thought good to expreſſe concerning

that diviſive Petition, and thoſe who are joyned together in it, being caſt in our way as a ſtumbling block and rock of offence, for hinderance of the work of God, both at home and abroad. And as we exhort and warne all the People of God in this Land to obſerve them who cauſe diviſions and offences, and to avoid them; So we hope aſſuredly, that no ſuch courſes, nor counſells ſhall proſper, as do tend directly or indirectly, to the ſtopping of the courſe of the Goſpel, or to the ſuppreſſion of Religion and Reformation, and that God Almighty ſhall againſt all impediments carry forward this his bleſſed and glorious Work, to the glory of his great Name, to the advancement of the Kingdome of his Son Jeſus Chriſt, to the deſtruction of Antichriſt, to the firme Peace and happy Union of all His Majeſties Dominions in Religion, and to His Majeſties Honour and Happineſſe: Whom GOD preſerve to raign long and proſperouſly over us.

FINIS.

At *Edinburgh* the eighteenth day of *January*, 1643.

THe Commiſsioners appointed by the Kings Majeſtie, and his Parliament of Scotland, *for conſerving the Articles of the Treaty, Doe finde that the Petition given in to his Majeſties Privie Councell by ſome Noblemen and Gentlemen upon the* 10. *of this moneth, doth tend to the hinderance of their proceedings and endeavours in this publick Work committed to them by the Kings Majeſty, and Parliament: And that it is prejudiciall to the authority of this Commiſsion, the ſame being in oppoſition of what was that day recommended by the ſaids Commiſsioners to the Councell. And ordaine this Act to be publiſhed for ſtopping all farther progreſſe of that or other Petitions of that kinde, And that it be printed with the Declaration of the Commiſsioners of the Generall Aſſembly made hereanent.*

Sic ſubſcribitur

Arch. Primeroſe *Cler. Commiſſ.*